Procure-to-Pay Capability Summary

SUBJECT: Solicitation Portal

BACKGROUND: The Solicitation Portal is a vendor portal for solicitations that was introduced as an enterprise-wide service for the Department of Defense (DoD) within the Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment (PIEE). It provides a more automated and secure process for posting solicitations and attachments, and receiving responses from industry. The portal enables the posting of solicitations to either a widespread or restricted audience, including restricting access by attachment, and includes the ability to post draft and final solicitations and amendments..

This tool performs posting required notices on Contract Opportunities within the System for Award Management (SAM), and supports the submission of unsolicited proposals. Additionally, the Solicitation Portal allows vendors to respond to solicitations and communicate directly with solicitation managers in a secure environment. This includes a dashboard that enables proposal managers within the vendor community to easily track solicitations by marking which ones they are interested in.

POLICY: The current capabilities of the Solicitation Portal include features that align with FAR 5.1 and 5.2, by enabling the public posting of solicitations and providing notice to the Government Point of Entry (GPE).

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE: The Solicitation Portal leverages a secure single sign-on log-in capability via the PIEE platform, which is available to both government and industry users. Contracting Officers are pre-provisioned with the Solicitation Manager role in PIEE, and Contract Specialists and Contractor Proposal Managers are able to register and be approved for their respective roles as needed. The Solicitation Portal also retrieves Industry Representatives & Certifications from SAM. Additionally, the portal features robust file handling capabilities and supports a comprehensive range of file formats with attachments up to 1.9 gigabytes each, and does not have a limit on the number of files that can be uploaded.

DATA STANDARDS: The tool leverages SAM APIs to automatically share solicitations with the GPE to post synopses. A version of the Procurement Data Standard schema has also been developed to support the Solicitation Portal in the future.

IMPACT: The integration of the Solicitation Portal into PIEE ultimately allows the DoD and Industry partners to effectively monitor, manage, and oversee solicitation opportunities. It provides an operationally secure environment to conduct business, establishes a common face to Industry for the DoD, creates continuity within the solicitation process, enables time saving efficiencies, and enforces regulatory compliance.

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